What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating tumor in a subject comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of:

(a) VNP40101M, or its equivalent; and

(b) a nucleoside, or a nucleoside analog.

2. A method for inhibiting tumor cell growth comprising contacting the tumor cell with effective amounts of:

(a) VNP40101M, or its equivalent; and

(b) a nucleoside, or a nucleoside analog.

3. The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the nucleoside is AraC (cytarabine), azacitidine, cladribine, decitabine, gemcitabine, mercaptopurine, thioguanine, fludarabine, clofarabine, troxacitabine or pentostatin.

4. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the tumor is solid malignant tumor, leukemia or lymphoma.

5. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein VNP40101M and the nucleoside can be administered concurrently or sequentially.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein VNP40101M and the nucleoside are administered intravenously, subcutaneously, or orally.

7. A method for treating cancer comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of VNP401OM and a nucleoside.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the cancer is a leukemia and the nucleoside is AraC.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the cancer is a leukemia and the nucleoside is clofarabine.

10. The method of claim 8 or 9, wherein the leukemia is acute myelogenous leukemia.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the dose of VNP40101M is between 100 and 1000 mg/m^2 and the dose of AraC is between 500 and 5000 mg/m^2.

12. A method for treating tumor in a subject comprising administering to the subject:

(a) an effective amount of VNP40101M, or its equivalent; and

(b) another anti-tumor therapy.

13. A method for inhibiting tumor cell growth comprising contacting the tumor cell:

(a) with effective amounts of VNP40101M, or its equivalent; and

(b) another anti-tumor therapy.

14. The method of claim 12 or 13 wherein the other anti-tumor therapy is radiation therapy or administration of another chemotherapeutic agent.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the chemotherapeutic agent is antimetabolites, etoposide, doxorubicin, taxol, vincristine, cyclophosphamide, mitomycin C, topoisomerase I and topoisomerase II inhibitors (adriamycin, topotecan, campothecin and irinotecan), cisplatin, carboplatin, tipifarnib (R115777), SCH66336, erlotinib, gefitinib, or gemtuzumab ozogamicin.

16. The method of any of claim 1-2, 6-12 and 14-15 wherein the subject is a human.

17. A composition comprising an amount of VNP40101M which produces synergistic effects when used in combination with a nucleoside in treating tumor.

18. A composition comprising an amount of nucleoside which produces synergistic effects when used in combination with a VNP40101M in treating tumor.